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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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FAY SHARPE FAGAN MINNICH & MCKEE LLP
1100 SUPPRIOR AVENUE
SEVENTH FLOOR
CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2518

EXAMINER

BEHULU, ALEMAYEHU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2682

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/839,273

Applicant(s)

TROMBATORE, CHARLES

Examiner

Alemayehu Behulu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1, 2,³ 11, 12, 13,¹⁴ and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799).

Regarding claims 1 and 12, Torrey discloses a telephone system (figures 1A, 2A) comprising: at least one cellular telephone unit adapted for mobile cellular telephone communications (figure 1A, number 100, figure 2A, number 210); a land line telephone wiring circuit adapted to telephonically link telephonic devices (figure 1A, number 131, 137, figure 2A, number 224); at least one land line-based telephone unit coupled to said land line telephone wiring circuit, said land line-based telephone unit adapted for land line telephone communications (figure 1A, number 130-140 and figure 2A, number 231-235); and a mobile converter coupled to said cellular telephone unit and to said land line telephone wiring circuit (figure 1A, number 120 and figure 2A, number 220), said mobile converter being adapted to convert designated cellular signals from said cellular telephone unit into signals compatible with land line telephone service for use by said land line-based telephone unit (column 3, lines 54-column 4, lines 36), a land line converter coupled to said land line telephone unit and to said land line telephone wiring circuit (figure 2A, number 225), said land line converter being adapted to convert designated land line

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signals from said land line telephone unit into signals compatible with cellular telephone service for use by said cellular telephone unit; wherein said telephone system relies upon cellular service as a communication carrier (column 4, lines 54-column 5, lines 18, note: please read column 4, line 60, "interface 298" as "interface 268").

Regarding claims 2 and 13, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively, wherein said land line converter comprises a dial tone generator adapted to generate dial tones for use by said land line-based telephone unit, when said land line-based telephone unit is in the "off-hook" condition (column 4, lines 47-53, figure 3A, numbers 305 and 310, figure 4A, number 405, 408).

Regarding claims 3 and 14, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively, wherein said land line converter comprises a ring generator adapted to generate ring signals for use by said land line-based telephone unit (column 4, lines 47-53, figure 3, numbers 325 and 330 and column 5, lines 50-67).

Regarding claims 11 and 22, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively, further comprising a landline power source adapted to supply power to said landline telephone units, compatible with landline telephone service (column 4, lines 47-53).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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2. Claims 4 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) in view of Tam (U.S. Patent No. 5, 526, 403).

Regarding claims 4 and 15, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively, and converter. However, Torrey fails to disclose Call Waiting tone adapted to convert Call Waiting tones received from said cellular telephone unit into signals compatible with landline service for use by said land line-based telephone unit. But, Tam discloses Call Waiting tones received from said cellular telephone unit into signals compatible with land line service for use by said land line-based telephone unit (column 9, lines 44-51). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) with Tam (U.S. Patent No. 5, 526, 403) in order to allow the user to communicate with multiple callers at once of multiple system such as wire line and wireless.

3. Claims 5 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) in view of LaDue, (U.S. Patent No. 5, 845, 203).

Regarding claims 5 and 16, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively, and mobile converter (figure 1A, number 120 and figure 2A, number 220). However, Torrey fails to disclose waiting tones received from said cellular telephone unit into signals compatible with landline service for use by said land line-based telephone unit. But, LaDue discloses waiting tones received from said cellular telephone unit into signals compatible with landline service for use by said land line-based telephone unit (column 10, lines 1-6). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) with LaDue, (U.S. Patent No. 5, 845, 203) in order for the user not to miss valuable calls.

4. Claims 6 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) in view of Manning (U.S. patent No. 6, 157, 849).

Regarding claims 6 and 17, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively.

However, Torrey fails to disclose a landline converter comprises a Dual one Multi-frequency (DTMF) converter for converting DTMF signals received from said land line-based telephone unit to signals compatible with cellular telephone service for use by said cellular telephone unit.

But, Manning discloses a land line converter comprises a Dual one Multi-frequency (DTMF) converter for converting DTMF signals received from said land line-based telephone unit to signals compatible with cellular telephone service for use by said cellular telephone unit (column 7, lines 41-65). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) with Manning (U.S. patent No. 6, 157, 849) in order to facilitate smooth connection during the call establishment.

5. Claims 7, 8, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) in view of Berkowitz (U.S. Patent No. 6, 259, 905).

Regarding claims 7 and 18, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively and landline converter (figure 2A, number 225). However, Torrey fails to disclose that landline converter comprises "flash" signal converter for converting "flash" signals received from said land line-based telephone unit to signals compatible with cellular telephone service for use by said cellular telephone unit. But, Berkowitz discloses, "flash," signal utilized in wireless and

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landline system (figure 2, numbers 107, 203, 205, 206, 207, 209, 211, figure 8, and column 8, lines 17-61). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) with Berkowitz (U.S. Patent No. 6, 259, 905) in order to minimize dialing and correcting delays in the system as suggested by Berkowitz.

Regarding claims 8 and 19, Torrey discloses the system in claims 1 and 12 respectively and landline converter (figure 2A, number 225). However, Torrey fails to disclose that landline converter that "end of dial" signal converter for converting "end of dial" signals received from said land line-based telephone unit to signals compatible with cellular telephone service for use by said cellular telephone unit But, Berkowitz discloses "end of dial" utilized in wireless and landline system (figure 2, numbers 107, 203, 205, 206, 207, 209, 211, and column 4, lines 60-65). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) with Berkowitz (U.S. Patent No. 6, 259, 905) in order to minimize dialing and correcting delays in the system as suggested by Berkowitz.

6. Claims 9, 10, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) in view of Bannister (U.S. Patent No. 5, 787, 355).

Regarding claims 9 and 20, Torrey discloses the system in claim 1 and 12 respectively. However, Torrey fails to disclose a plurality of cellular telephone units, one being a master unit, and the others being slave units. But, Bannister discloses a plurality of cellular telephone units, one being a master unit, and the others being slave units (figure 7, numbers 701-1 –701-n, column 9, lines 24-43 and abstract). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a

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person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Torrey (US. Patent No. 6, 466, 799) with Bannister (U.S. Patent No. 5, 787, 355) in order to provide reliable and inexpensive communications as suggested by Bannister.

Regarding claims 10 and 21, Torrey and Bannister disclose the system in claim 9 wherein cellular telephone units have different calling line identification numbers (see Bannister column 3, lines 20-25, column 4, lines 6-11 and abstract).

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Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Cardina (U.S. Patent No. 6, 151, 500) Method and Apparatus For Directing a Wireless Communication To a Wireline Unit

Rabina et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5, 953, 675) Method For Processing Information IN a Wireless Local Loop Terminal and a Terminal

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alemayehu Behulu whose telephone number is 703-305-4828.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 703-308-6739. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AB

Nguyen Vo
3-5-2004

NGUYENT.VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER